

Committee for Space Weather 2007-2 Meeting Summary

On April 19, 2007, the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM)-sponsored Committee for Space Weather (CSW), cochaired by Dr. Guhathakurta, (NASA), Dr. Robinson (acting NSF), Dr. Thomas Bogdan (NOAA/NWS/SEC), and Col Mark Zettlemoyer (DOD/AF), met to continue addressing the recommendations from the *Report of the Assessment Committee for the National Space Weather Program*, which was completed by an independent team of space weather experts chaired by Dr. Louis Lanzerotti, Distinguished Research Professor of Physics in the Center for Solar-Terrestrial Research, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, New Jersey. The CSW began addressing these recommendations at their August 29, 2006, meeting. The formalized framework specifying the way forward for each of these recommendations is nearly completed.

The initial discussions addressed the next step in supporting the Office of Science and Technology for Policy's (OSTP) assessment of space weather impacts due to the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS) program restructuring, which resulted from the Congressionally mandated Nunn-McCurdy process. The OSTP is pulling together federal stakeholders to examine and understand the implications of the restructuring, and make recommendations for mitigation strategies, in order to have potential impacts on the fiscal year budget planning. OSTP is planning its initial stakeholders meeting on May 10, 2007. The CSW has already provided an initial assessment of impacts due to the loss of the NPOESS Space Environmental Satellite Sensor (SESS) suite capability.

In a related initiative, CSW has created a smooth template draft of a Space Weather Implementation Plan (SWx IP) as requested by the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (CENR) Subcommittee for Disaster Reduction (SDR). The SDR is charged with establishing clear national goals for Federal science and technology investments in disaster reduction through a set of Grand Challenges approved by the President's National Science and Technology Council (NSTC). Space weather is one of 15 phenomena that the SDR merited as a hazard, and warranted a national implementation plan to meet these Grand Challenges. A spreadsheet index that identifies the Lead(s) and contributing agency roles for each of these Grand Challenges has been incorporated into the SWx IP for OMB. The CSW cochairs are planning to meet and review these separate documents simultaneously before it is forwarded to the NSWP Council chair and the OFCM for final approval.

The CSW addressed a proposal for the new NSWP Strategic Plan to employ the same methodology used to construct the SWx IP for SDR in completing its last two sections on the Strategic Elements and Areas of Strategic Priorities. These two sections represent the core needs and goals for the NSWP over the next decade to ensure consistency in the philosophy of the roadmap at all government levels. CSW plans to complete the strategic plan by the end of calendar year 2007.